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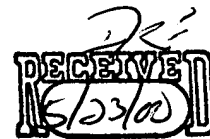
TO: Examiner Stephen Nguyen  
Technology Center 2700  
Group Art Unit 2731  
United States Patent and Trademark Office

FAX: (703) 305 - 3988

DATE: 5/22/2000

FROM: Paul A. Roberts, Associate Technology Counsel  
Technology Law Group  
Patent Acquisition

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TEL.: (202) 736-6604

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RE: Response to a Final Office Action Dated March 22, 2000 for Serial #:  
08/746,901 in re: Isaac Elliot et al

Total number of pages including cover sheet: 10

#### COMMENTS:

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Response to a Final Office Action for U.S. Patent Application  
 Serial Number 08/746,901 in re: Isaac Elliot et al filed 11/18/1996,  
 Office Action dated March 22, 2000.

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(he) B/12  
5/24/00  
J. Dabbs  
Serial No.: 08/746,901  
Examiner: S. Nguyen

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Elliott Docket: VON-96-105  
Serial No.: 08/746,901 Art Unit: 2731  
Filed: November 18, 1996 Examiner: S. Nguyen  
Title: **SYSTEM, METHOD AND ARTICLE OF MANUFACTURE FOR  
SELECTING A GATEWAY OF A HYBRID COMMUNICATION  
SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE**

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated March 22, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please ~~cancel~~ claims 24 and 30.

The currently pending claims are duplicated below for convenience.

19. A method for selecting a gateway proximal to a network access point that satisfies a predefined call service on a hybrid network, wherein the hybrid network includes a circuit switched network, a packet switched network and a directory service to route a call, comprising the steps of:

transmitting a query including a type of call service to the directory service to obtain a plurality of gateways between the packet switched network and circuit switched network that match the predefined call service criteria;

querying each of the plurality of gateways to determine a network topology to service the call;

ranking the plurality of gateways based on the network topology and the call service criteria;